

GARUḌA PURANAM.

more money obtained in the shape of revenue, fines realised from persons convicted in law courts, and that obtained by conquest. The three specific sources of wealth*in respect of a Vais'ya are cattle-rearing, agriculture and trade. Favour obtained by service is the only source of income of a S'udra. In times of danger, a Brahmana, by pursuing agriculture, trade, or usury, does not commit any sin. The Rishis have described a large concourse of means of livelihood, but usury thrives*the best of them all. Unnatural seasons of drought, political disturbances, rats and other pests are the impediments to the successful practice of agriculture, but usury is bereft of them all. Tfee thriving in usury does not cease in day or in night, in .dark or light fortnight, nor in summer, winter or rains. The profit, which artisans and traders of different guilds do by sojourning to foreign climes, the money-lender does by remaining in his native.Countr*y* Having-made a good profit in the business of money lending, one should propitiate the gods, Brahmanas and one's departed manes with a portion thereof. The gods, etc., thus propitiated, absolve the sin incidental to the practice of usury. Learning, art, service, cattle-rearing, trade, agriculture and alms-taking etc., are the ten means of livelihood. By accepting gifts a Brahman a shall acquire wealth, a Kshatriya shall acquire wealth by conquest, a Vaishya shall acquire money by plying any lawful trade, whereas a Shudra shall earn money by serving others. A full-bodied river, ^akas

(vegetables
 Samids, Kusha-grass, fire, leaves and Omkara are
 the best
 possessions of Brahmanas, There is no demerit in
 accepting
 gifts, offered without asking or seeking, the gods
 call such
 articles (gifts) as ambrosia; hence, they should
 not be reject-
 ed. One seeking to propitiate the gods and Atithis
 may accept
 gifts from one's servants and preceptor. For
 these purposes
 one may accept gifts from any person
 whomsoever, but one
 must not appropriate articles of such gifts to
 one's own use,
 A Brahmana, possessed of good qualification*
 and.